

CONVICT ROCKEFELLERS FOR CRIMES COMMITTED IN COLORADO

THE Rockefeller have already been found guilty of every awful crime charged against them. They have been convicted by the court of public opinion as a result of the testimony produced before the United States Commission on Industrial Relations.

This is not a conclusion reached by Socialists. It is the declaration of Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the commission, which was appointed by President Wilson.

What is Colorado going to do about it? Colorado has indicted, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment John R. Lawson, the official of the United Mine Workers, who led the workers' revolt in that state. What is Colorado going to do to the Rockefeller, who led the forces of greed in the war to keep the workers enslaved, and in carrying on that war committed every crime possible against human freedom, even to the slaughtering of innocent children.

PROVE RESPONSIBILITY.

The United States Commission on Industrial Relations has ended its hearings. From his home in Kansas City, Chairman

Walsh declares that the commission "has proved the absolute responsibility of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., himself for everything that happened in Colorado." He added that the men who led the Colorado strike were fighting the same fight for liberty "against an enemy as powerful and menacing as any ever faced by our revolutionary forefathers." He also attacked John D. Rockefeller, and said the Colorado strike was typical of other labor clashes.

"The record of the Washington hearing of the commission," said Chairman Walsh, "is remarkable, in my mind, chiefly because every major indictment brought against the Rockefellers, father and son, as well as the other coal operators working with them in Colorado, by the bitterest of agitators, has been proved out of the lips of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., or the men whom he hires to carry out the joint will of his father and himself; in most instances backed up by the letters over the signatures of these men."

LISTS CHARGES "PROVED."

"POLITICAL DOMINATION, intimidation of the governor, contempt for government and the American people as a whole, the prostitution of the state to private interests, an utter contempt and

disregard for the state and federal constitutions as well as for statute laws, the horror of the Ludlow massacre, the exploitation of helpless miners by economic pressure, and the vile forms of larceny; the attempt to make it appear that the coal companies had met in conference representatives of the strikers, when such was not the case; the carefully organized and extensive campaign undertaken to deceive the people—all these have been established beyond all doubt from the testimony of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and his personal lieutenants.

"ABOVE ALL, THE COMMISSION HAS PROVED THE ABSOLUTE RESPONSIBILITY OF JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., HIMSELF FOR EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED IN COLORADO."

"W. L. Mackenzie King, former labor commissioner of Canada and at present an employee of the Rockefeller Foundation, boasted, while giving his testimony, that the will and conscience of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., was more potent in Colorado than all the public opinion of all the people of the United States, and that the American people must look to that man for an improvement of conditions, con-

ceded by all to be un-American and intolerable.

RECALLS 700,000 CHILD DEATHS.

"IF THE COLORADO record were not sufficient to give us the color and bent of the mind of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., we should still have a perfect record of his mental processes in the article by Professor Stevenson, which he indorsed as 'one of the soundest and most forcible presentations on the subject of capital and labor he had ever seen.'"

"Mr. Rockefeller's persistent effort to conceal from the public his true thought has failed as a result of the revelation. It does no injustice to the spirit of the article which Mr. Rockefeller so lavishly praises to call attention to that portion of it in which Professor Stevenson conceded, for the sake of argument, that 700,000 little children die annually in America on account of under-nourishment of themselves or their parents, and asserts that their deaths must be conceded to be a blessing to themselves and to the community, adding that 'such children should not have been born,' and 'unskilled labor is mere animated machinery.'"

STRIKE LIKE REVOLUTION.

"WITH THE record of the Colorado

Investigation before them the American people will be blind indeed if they fail to see the folly of trusting to the good intentions and the philanthropic impulses of men like the Rockefellers and if they do not realize that the men who lead a strike such as that of the miners of Colorado are fighting the same old fight for liberty and democracy against an enemy as powerful and menacing as any ever faced by our revolutionary forefathers.

"WITH THE CLOSE OF THE WASHINGTON HEARING THE COMMISSION HAS PRACTICALLY COMPLETED ITS INVESTIGATION OF THE COLORADO STRIKE. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NOW HAVE ACCESS TO A PUBLIC RECORD WHICH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY TELLS THE WHOLE STORY OF HOW MONOPOLISTIC PROPERTY INTERESTS GO ABOUT IT WHEN THEY WISH TO CRUSH A REVOLT AGAINST INDUSTRIAL DESPOTISM AND THUS TO RETAIN THEIR ARBITRARY POWER OVER THE LIVES OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN."

"WHAT HAPPENS ANYWHERE."

"I FAVORED the commission probing

to the bottom this particular social cancer because I realized that the struggle in Colorado was not local or peculiar in character but presented, as it were, a great laboratory in which every angle of the labor problem could be observed and studied.

"In my opinion the indisputable facts developed furnish a striking illustration of what happens anywhere when the workers in their struggle for economic freedom run counter to the financial interests and to the love of arbitrary power of such men as Messrs. Rockefeller."

THERE YOU HAVE THE SUMMARY OF THE CASE AGAINST THE ROCKEFELLERS ESTABLISHED BEFORE A RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC TRIBUNAL. THIS IS A NATION OF SLAVES AND THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT, FROM THE PRESIDENT DOWN TO THE CHEAPEST PAID GUNMAN - MURDERER WEARING THE UNIFORM OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, IS ROCKEFELLERS. IF THE CASE IS DROPPED AT THIS POINT, THE ROCKEFELLERS MUST BE CONVICTED FOR THE CRIMES THEY HAVE COMMITTED IN COLORADO.

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READ AND STUDY THE FACTS TO BE FOUND ON THIS PAGE CONCERNING THE MANY ASSAULTS BEING MADE ON YOUR LIBERTIES

LOWER MORTAL BEINGS NEVER SANK

Significance of the Closing Incident of Michigan's Tragic Copper Strike
Told by Debs in His Own Matchless Language—What Will You Do to Aid these Ten Thousand Miserable Slaves?

EUGENE V. DEBS

THE FOLLOWING associated press dispatch is the last tragic echo of the crushing defeat sustained by the union miners in the strike in the upper peninsula of Michigan: "Calumet, Mich., May 28th.—A memorial thanking James McNaughton, general manager of the Calumet and Hecla Mining Company, for his firmness in refusing to yield to the demands of the union in the copper strike a year ago, was presented McNaughton tonight, signed by the ten thousand employees of the company. The memorial contains the signatures of every employee and expressed appreciation for the half million dollar bonus promised them June 15th by the company."

Do you catch the true meaning, the full significance of this closing incident of the tragic copper strike of a year ago? Can you see these ten thousand miserable slaves pouring out their thanks to the tyrant who ordered their union, assaulted, beat up and attempted to murder their leaders and then drove them out of the state; the tyrant who is responsible for the murder of nearly a hundred babes that never-to-be-forgotten Christmas eve? Lower than these slaves are pictured in the dispatch no mortal beings were ever sunk in the world's legions. Scabbing at its worst is being virtue compared to what they are here with at its best.

DO NOT JUDGE TOO HARSHLY.

BUT DO NOT judge these wretched slaves harshly for such may be said in mitigation of their debasement. They did not see this so-called memorial. Of course not, it was so low enough, God knows, with-sinister deeper in their degradation and degradation in public their gratitude to the author.

THIS LITTLE SCHEME WAS ENGINEERED BY THE CALUMET AND HECLA MINING CORPORATION AND ITS OFFICIALS, AND QUITE POSSIBLY BY McNAUGHTON HIMSELF.

This filthy "memorial" McNaughton is dedicated, glorified and made to appear immaculate, but only a mental cripple will be deceived.

It must have been a bitter pill to many a slave of the Calumet and Hecla but they had to swallow it. They had to publicly lick their master's hand like dogs for the (bone) he flung them, and thank him for having destroyed their union, mobbed their leaders, murdered their children, robbed them of their self-respect, ravaged their manhood, sunk them to the depths of degradation and finally certify to all the world that they were profoundly grateful for their slavery and degradation.

ON THE LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE.

SOME YEARS ago the Louisville-Nashville and other railroads in the South, learning that I was to organize the American Railway Union at that section, prepared a resolution in the name of "We, the employees," denouncing me as "The Chicago Anarchist," and declaring that they regarded me utterly as an enemy of labor and that they would have nothing to do with any

man who was connected. This resolution was presented to the miners of the Calumet and Hecla mine, who, of course, were afraid to come near me, knowing how closely they were watched, but during the two or three weeks that followed I received scores of letters from them apologizing for their signature and explaining that if they had not signed they would have lost their jobs. The day I started on that Southern trip the Associated Press carried the full text of the resolution denouncing and repudiating me in the name of the railroad employees of that section, and the public believed it.

THIS CALUMET AND HECLA "MEMORIAL" WITHOUT A DOUBT WAS ENGINEERED IN THE SAME WAY. IT IS A RANK FRAUD; A TRANSPARENT SWINDLE.

But it proves one thing with crushing force and that is that the slaves of the Calumet and Hecla are down at the bottom. They can sink no lower. Nothing they could now do would add one jot to their abject servility, cowardice and dishonor.

WHAT MUST THEY THINK.

WHAT MUST they think when visions of Charlie Moyer, Guy Miller and other union leaders who were persecuted, tortured and all but murdered for their sake appear to them in the light of their homage to McNaughton their great benefactor?

What must they think when the spectres of those murdered children, almost a hundred of them rise to rebuke their miserable perfidy and cravenness?

Their signatures may have certified the glory of the tyrant that crushed them but in their hearts they despise him; their signatures may have certified the condemnation of their faithful union leaders but in their souls they honor them.

The Calumet and Hecla "memorial," read between the lines, is perfectly clear. We propose to make it a matter of record. We shall have occasion to refer to it again, and in the long run it will serve the cause of union labor in a way little dreamed of by those who inspired it.

SEEING THE GHOSTS OF BABES.

IT IS QUITE conceivable that James McNaughton has been seeing the ghosts of murdered babies in his dreams and that a "memorial" washing the "damned spots" from his hands was necessary to soothe his troubled spirit, but not all the memorials a tyrant ever wrote or his slaves ever signed will wash the blood of the innocents from the hands of James McNaughton and the Calumet and Hecla copper criminals.

WHEN IN THE DAY TO COME THE BANNER OF UNION LABOR WAVES IN TRIUMPH ABOVE THE CALUMET AND HECLA SLAVE-PENS THIS "MEMORIAL" WILL BE DISPLAYED IN THE MUSEUM AS A SOUVENIR OF THE BLACKEST CHAPTER IN LABOR HISTORY.

LABOR HAS MEMORIAL DAY.

Thousands of members of Trinidad, Colo., trade unions and locals of the United Mine Workers took part in the Memorial Day tribute extended to the victims of the Ludlow massacre, of April 29, 1914, when 21 men, women and children lost their lives, victims of the greed of John D. Rockefeller.

MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER READ "AMERICAN SOCIALIST"

Vote of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations. THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST equals an Socialist vote in the election. It is the only Socialist paper in the United States which is read by every Socialist voter, but Socialists voters who are also party members, and who are well informed, and who cannot be led away from the Socialist cause by a religious or any other kind of superstition.

WHAT BETTER way is there to make every Socialist voter than by getting them to subscribe to the OFFICIAL PARTY PAPER. The American Socialist will get them thoroughly acquainted with the party methods and tactics, will keep them posted on party affairs and give them the best of Socialist news and propaganda.

The first step in the campaign to make Every Socialist Voter an American Socialist Reader, is to MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST MEMBER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER. There are at present time nearly 30,000 members of the Socialist Party which is about 30,000 more than there are subscribers to our list.

WE ARE going to start right in getting every new member to subscribe to THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST, and have sent the following letter to the secretaries of the local parties.

Dear Comrades:—The great problem that confronts your local, as well as all other local parties, is to get the new members interested so that they will remain within our ranks.

Year after year, thousands of men and women join the party, pay dues for a couple of months, then lose interest and drop out. How serious this problem is you can see by the following example:

Local Cook County (Chicago) has taken in over 1,000 new members during the last four years, yet its membership to-day is no greater than it was four years ago. Which means that practically all these new members dropped in their dues.

The Executive Secretary, and the Circulation Manager of THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST tackled this problem over the other day, and we came to the conclusion that one of the best ways to keep the new members from leaving is to get them to subscribe to the official organ of the Socialist party—THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST.

When the new member subscribes to THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST he is kept in touch with the movement even if he fails to attend the meetings of the local. Thus his interest and enthusiasm are kept alive. He furthermore receives through the columns of the paper the necessary training in Socialist doctrine and organization which he must have in order to develop into a permanent and valuable recruit for the party.

We are, therefore, presenting to you the following plan which is designed to get all new members to subscribe automatically to the party paper.

We suggest that you charge every new member an initiation fee of 25 cents. Of this amount 10 cents is to remain in the local treasury and 15 cents is to be applied on a 6 months subscription to THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST to be sent to the new member.

The National Office has issued INITIATION SUBSCRIPTION CARDS which will be sent TO THE SECRETARIES OF LOCALS ONLY at the rate of 15 cents per card.

Every local that decides to put its new members on THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST subscription list should lay in a stock of these cards. In order to get the plan well under way we are making the initial offer of 100 cards for \$1.00.

WE SUGGEST THAT EVERY LOCAL THAT ADOPTS THE PLAN INSTRUCT ITS SECRETARY TO SEND ONE DOLLAR FOR SEVEN OF THESE CARDS. You can get as many more at the same rate as you care to buy, provided your order is sent in on the attached order blank.

The Executive Secretary and myself feel that we have started something "big," something that is going to be of lasting benefit to the party and the party paper, when we hit upon this plan. We ask you MOST URGENTLY, therefore, to bring the matter to a vote at once, and, if your decision is favorable, to show your good faith by sending in for at least SEVEN of the "INITIATION SUBSCRIPTION CARDS."

The Secretary will kindly inform us of the decision of the local on the enclosed self-addressed postal card.

Yours For a Big Party and a Big Party Paper.
WALTER LANPERSIEK, Executive Secretary,
RALPH KORNIGOLD, Circulation Manager.

THIS LETTER ought to be acted on favorably by every one of the 30,000 local parties in the country at the next meeting. You can help by getting this letter into the hands of every local and seeing to it personally that favorable action is taken. DO THIS NOW! This ought to send us over the 40,000 mark in a big hurry.

TO MEMBERS OF LABOR UNIONS

The National Socialist Party is anxious to get the names and addresses of Socialists who are members of labor unions.

It wants the help of the Socialists in the unions to get them. You have all heard of the great pamphlet, "Are the Workers of America Opposed to an Eight-Hour Law?" If you will send in a list of five or more Socialists or Socialist sympathizers who are members of your union, Party, National Office, 103 West Madison Street, Chicago, Ill., will give you the name of the union, and

SOCIALIST POSITION IS SUSTAINED

Great Story of How Young Rockefeller Was Unmasked—Managing Editor of "New York Call," Who Was on the Spot, Analyzes Work of Industrial Commission for the American Socialist

By [Name] Written For The American Socialist.

SO MANY volumes of facts were brought out during the last public hearing held by the United States Commission on Industrial Relations in Washington that it is difficult to know how to sift from the mass the few most vital points. Here, in this hearing at the nation's capital, under the shadow of the dome and just a half dozen blocks from the White House, was the climax of two years of work. Here was the whirlwind finish down the home stretch. Here they put on the speed and went driving to the heart of things. Here they scored their home run.

Of course the examination of Rockefeller and his paid satellites was the great feature of the hearing. Seldom is one compelled to witness such brazen insolence, such "you can't hurt me" bravado, such "what-are-you-going-to-do-about-it" defiance. Rockefeller, master of millions of dollars and millions of men, cold, shifty, emotionless, eternally dodging and evading, attempting to apply an impenetrable school manner—on the surface—to his conduct on the stand, the while palpably lying and twisting. Ivy Leez, shrewd press agent, priming, smirking, brazen as the most painted lady on Broadway. W. L. MacKenzie King, like nothing more than a young upstart whom one would like to chastise and send to bed, but secure in the employment of the Rockefeller Foundation, for which he is the hired "investigator" of industrial conditions. There was a challenging note of insult about this person, once, by heaven knows what freak of chance, once was labor commissioner of Canada. L. M. Bowers, the man who helped to do the dirty work in Colorado. There they were, one after the other, showing us in actuality the human equation that we have got to deal with in our fight against the capitalist system.

IT'S THEIR MONEY POWER.

AS FOR BRAINS—those wonderfully superior brains that we hear so much about—they didn't seem to be present. These men are not fools, it is true, but what also is true is that they are no more intelligent, no more brainy, than thousands upon thousands of other men. They cannot claim "superior" brains, by any manner of means. They are just ordinarily intelligent men who are entrenched and surrounded and buttressed by the enormous power of overwhelming wealth. There is the power of economic control, not the power of overmastering intellect.

THESE MEN DOMINATE A GREAT PART OF THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM, AND OTHER MEN MUCH LIKE THEM DOMINATE THE BALANCE OF IT. IT'S THEIR MONEY POWER, THEIR PAPER TITLES, THEIR ECONOMIC CONTROL, THAT MAKES THEM STRONG—AND THAT MAKES THEM ENEMIES OF THE COMMON WELFARE.

Never was that more clearly shown than in this hearing. Never was the Socialist position more completely sustained. We found in this hearing that capitalism is just what we have said it was and that it operates just as we have said it operates. The value of this hearing is in the fact that it has brought out OFFICIALLY everything that we have said and repeated for years. Through regular and official channels we now have THE PROOF for every claim that we have ever made.

EVEN PRESIDENT RIDICULED.

THAT HAS per worked and never produced anything of value, whose power came to him by the sole virtue of his absolute control over the destinies of thousands. Because he owns that to which others must apply their labor power in order to live, his word is their law, his bounty is their livelihood.

THROUGH THIS VAST ECONOMIC POWER LEGISLATURES ARE DEBAUCHED, "LITTLE COWBOY GOVERNORS" ARE WHIPPED "INTO LINE," NEWSPAPER EDITORS ARE "ROUNDED UP" AND EVERYTHING IS BENT TO HIS WILL—FOR HIS PROFIT. EVEN THE HIGHEST OFFICE IN THE LAND IS NOT IMMUNE AND THE PRESIDENT IS RIDICULED FOR LACK OF BUSINESS SENSE.

This is no longer theory. It is fact. It came out in testimony and it is in the stenographic record for those who care to see in detail. And just by way of suggestion, the Socialist party could have no better propaganda than the verbatim testimony of Rockefeller, if it could be produced in book form. The whole infamous story is there.

LAST CRUSHING LINK.

AND THE LAST crushing link of evidence against Rockefeller—yes, Rockefeller personally came when it was shown, and admitted, that Rockefeller KNEW IN ADVANCE of the formation of the new famous Troop A, Colorado National Guard. This troop was recruited from mine employees, such as superintendents, office employees and GUNMEN. These gunmen were brought into Colorado to "protect property," which means to kill strikers. This troop was organized to give military sanction to the slaughtering done by these Hessians of industry. As soldiers they were above the law in their murders. They were privately owned soldiers, paid by the mine owners and under their orders, but under the protection of the state, as regular militiamen. And Rockefeller knew in advance that this troop was being formed, he knew how it was being paid, from whence recruited—AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. It was this troop that robed in the blood of Ludlow. THESE WERE THE LUDLOW BUTCHERS.

NOT ONLY DID ROCKEFELLER KNOW ABOUT THIS, BUT LATER HE WROTE TO L. M. BOWERS, ONE OF HIS DENVER SATELLITES, "WE ARE WITH YOU IN EVERYTHING YOU DO."

THAT IS CAPITALISM!

THERE IS capitalism. And it is no different here than it is anywhere else. Under capitalism those things which all of us must have are being brought under the ownership and control of a handful of men. To retain this control, to make profits as large as possible, these men will do WHATEVER IS NECESSARY. This is no everywhere. An official of the Pennsylvania

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 2.)

SOCIALISM IS THE ONLY HOPE AS WORLD WAR BLEEDS ITSELF TOWARDS PEACE

THESE are the only effective peace forces in the world. This great power is the world socialist movement. This is even acknowledged by the capitalist press as the situation in Europe continues.

At first the capitalist press scoffed and sneered because the Socialist movement did not prevent the present catastrophe. But they now see in the Socialist movement the only hope of a definite peace and a better world after the war. They see the means of the world turning to Socialism with the passing of this war.

This feeling in the ranks of non-Socialism was well voiced by Edwin Davis Schooner, in his article in the Century Magazine, republished in The American Socialist. It is being expressed in editorials appearing daily in non-Socialist publications all over the country.

A few of these editorials, and parts of others, are being published this week, in order to give the readers of The American Socialist an opportunity to see what the non-Socialists are saying and thinking about the Socialist movement in these troublous times.

DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALIST IDEALS

(From New York Journal of Commerce.)

By general consent the war will leave the relations between labor and capital in a different condition from that in which it found them. This will be especially so in the United Kingdom where the people have been called on to perform an experiment in State Socialism on a scale hitherto unknown, and where, consequently, the belief will be strengthened that the Socialist ideal is within reach of attainment. That ideal, on which it is claimed that all schools of Socialists unite, is that the community should own and control all the means and instruments of creating wealth, to be used in the interests of the whole people.

Socialism has been otherwise defined to be "a consistent endeavor to substitute for the anarchical competition of to-day the organized co-operation of to-morrow." The British Government has interfered for the stern repression of competition, "anarchical" or otherwise. It has fixed the rates of marine insurance, taken possession of the agencies of railway transportation and regulated freight charges; placed a limit to the advance on the price of food, and transformed private factories into Government workshops when the necessities of the State seemed to demand it.

Hence, a representative Socialist, H. W. Hyndman, is moved to say: "Men and women were more chimerical, and I myself were an infatuated visionary, now admit privately that if things go on as they are going there is no remedy for the existing state of things but organized co-operation supported by the national resources."

Mr. Hyndman declares that never throughout his long life have Social Democrats been listened to with such respect as they are now.

ed to and applauded with the other vigor they are to-day. Hence also the belief that the early critical time in the British Island will come after declaration of peace. This is because among other things, on the statement that the workers have borne more than their fair share of the fighting, the proportion of wage-earners to well-to-do men at the front being at least twenty-four to one. It is assumed that they will be different men from what they were when they left. But as they survey the condition of their class it is at least probable that they will ask themselves: "Was it worth while?"

Slaves any radical change in the relations between labor and capital in Great Britain would have an immediate influence on conditions here, and, as it is, it must be held to have a direct bearing on the industrial future of the United States.

In the last analysis, the one point on which British Socialists are in complete agreement is that there can be no doubt that the two million trade unionists now in the army will come back to their normal occupations with enlarged and altered views, and that the influence of their political action will be felt to a greater extent than before.

Further, it may be true, as has been confidently asserted, that when peace is proclaimed, it will be impossible for the rulers of any of the European nations to neglect the rising forces of democracy, and these new democracies will be more and more inspired by Socialist ideals and impelled toward the enactment of Socialist measures.

SOCIALISTS AS PEACEMAKERS

(From Kavanagh, Gas, News.)

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to estimate the importance of The House dispatch in which it is stated that the Socialists of Germany are making an earnest effort to find a basis on which a cessation of the war can be brought about. The dispatch came by way of London, and may have been written by a Socialist, and it isn't known whether the peace movement has the sympathy of German Socialists generally. It seems that the German Socialists are striving to get in touch with the Socialists of Great Britain and France with the view of interesting them in it.

If the movement has the support of German Socialists generally it is calculated to arrest the attention of the German government since the Socialists form a very big part of the population of Germany. At the beginning of the war they backed up the government strongly. If they are now moving for peace there is likely to be a lack of that unity and harmony of the German people that is referred to so often in the foreign press.

German Socialists are reported as saying that they do not believe that Germany can be starved, but they are apparently confident that the war cannot be continued a great deal longer because of its disastrous effect upon economic conditions in Germany. They are tremendously anxious about the debt and rapidly reaching their productive capacity. In this respect Germany is worse off than England or France because her industries are largely paralyzed, due to lack of raw materials, and commerce is greatly reduced because Great Britain commands the seas.

While, therefore, there may be a supply of food in Germany the people are suffering from lack of raw materials. This condition prevails to a much less extent in England and France. Russia is better prepared for a long war than any other one of the belligerents, and the activities of the Socialists is awaited with great interest.

END CAMPAIGN OF FEAR

THE INDIANAPOLIS News comments: "In the midst of the campaign of hate to which Germany and Great Britain are parties, it is most cheering to know that the British and German Socialists are beginning to come together on terms of peace. It is far too early to venture a prediction as to the attitude of the various governments toward the program that has been suggested. But it is most encouraging that it should have come from the Germans, and been sympathetically received by the English."

BACK TO INDIVIDUALISM!
THE RECORD-Herald is a daily at Warsaw, Wis., in commenting on the reports from Europe how the various governments are drifting into socialism, says: "Well, how in Europe going to get back to an individualistic or capitalist basis? When the war ends, millions of hungry men with guns in their hands, will be clamoring for food. Perhaps, too, they will demand social justice. At all events, the government will have to provide for them before it relinquishes its control of industry. It will have to get them to work. To do that it will have to own factories, carry on industries and commerce, and in a general way, do business as a great corporation. The economic readjustment of the belligerents will probably settle the Marxian theory one way or the other. Whether the result will approximate the dream of Belsay or the 'Coming Slavery' of Herbert Spencer is one of the most interesting of pending questions."

SUPPRESSING VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

(From Richmond, Va., Dispatch.)

KARL LIEBKNECHT, the German Socialist leader, has been ordered to the front with the Landsturm, one of the reserve classes of the army. Thus the government has at last struck at the single voice in Germany raised in opposition to the war. Liebknecht was reported to have been shot by the authorities in the first days of the war, but he later reappeared in the Reichstag and made himself prominent by his isolated resistance to a measure of the Reichstag in support of a military vote in the chamber against the war credits.

No doubt, Liebknecht has irritated the government greatly. He is an old opponent of the imperial system, and has been on the black books many days. It is easy to understand the government's attitude and even to feel some sympathy with it, but, nevertheless, the government is making a mistake in seeking to silence Liebknecht.

Discontent exists in Germany, and from all accounts, is rapidly growing. Roundless optimism is giving way to pessimism, especially among the laboring classes. This discontent cannot be cured by the suppression of labor leaders; it will probably be aggravated. As in so many similar cases, Liebknecht's mistake would be far less powerful than Liebknecht ordered to the front, possibly never to return. In that case, he would wear the martyr's crown of Social Democracy instead of living as a rather ineffectual enemy of the government.

LETTERS FROM "AMERICAN SOCIALIST" READERS

RULES FOR THIS DEPARTMENT.
The editorial committee of the Socialist Party is providing for an open forum in the American Socialist for the expression of the views of its readers on matters of current interest.

Letters should be sent to the Editor, American Socialist, 100 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Letters should be sent to the Editor, American Socialist, 100 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Letters should be sent to the Editor, American Socialist, 100 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

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GERMAN WORKERS FOR PEACE

(From Tappeh, Hans, Capital.)

GERMAN SOCIALISTS have sent a delegate to Amsterdam to get into touch with representatives of Dutch, French and British Socialists and laborers with the object of bringing about peace. The German Social Democrats are said to be unanimous for withdrawal from Belgium. At the same time they are not for a Belgian indemnity. French and English labor leaders agree almost entirely with the German Social Democrat peace program, which includes a restoration to all the belligerent countries of their territorial possessions as they stood before war began, together with the neutralization of all strategic waterways, as the straits of Gibraltar, the Kiel canal, Suez, the Dardanelles and the Bosporus, and a plebiscite in Russia, Germany and Austria. French and English labor leaders agree almost entirely with the German Social Democrat peace program, which includes a restoration to all the belligerent countries of their territorial possessions as they stood before war began, together with the neutralization of all strategic waterways, as the straits of Gibraltar, the Kiel canal, Suez, the Dardanelles and the Bosporus, and a plebiscite in Russia, Germany and Austria.

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AN EMBARRASSING QUESTION

(From The Pittsburgh Leader.)

KEIR HARRIS, the English Socialist, and a handful of fellow workers, less than half a dozen of actual fighting leaders all told, have tossed the full force of the British Empire upon themselves, and have the heavy hand of the British government over their heads. And about a simple question.

Hardie and his comrades were asked the question to tell the people in plain words what they are fighting for. That is enough. The answer is everything but answer. Hardie and his fellow-fighters are told everything but what they want to be told. What they want to be told is: "What is it you want? What is it you will demand when peace is restored?"

These British Socialists make no secret of their hostility to the war. From the beginning of it they have taken their line in their hands, every day in an open, active, militant attitude to refuse to volunteer, and to make their own peace. They have to be told to refuse to be conscripted, and if the government tries force, to reply with force.

But the hardest blow of all is the question which Hardie and his fellow workers have before the government and all the people of Europe, and demand an answer. What are you fighting for? They assert that the people who are giving up their lives, making all the sacrifices and are asked to sacrifice even more ought to know what the war is for.

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